

VICTORY OR DEFEAT

W a r i n A f g h a n i s t a n

Every nation and every region now have a decision to make, either you are with us or you are with the terrorists said George Bush from the damaged Pentagon after being hit hard by the Lion of Allah Sheikh Osama bin Laden(RA) on the blessed day of September 11.

Since al Qaeda had established itself in the Taliban ruled Afghanistan after the defeat of Soviet. In an address to the Congress, George Bush made the following demands to the Taliban; he said, **“and tonight the United States of America makes the following demands on the Taliban:**

- Deliver to the United States of America all the leaders of al Qaeda who hide in your land.**

- Release all foreign nationals including American citizens**

- Protect the so-called foreign journalists, aid workers and diplomats.**

- Close immediately and permanently every training camp in Afghanistan and handover every terrorist and every person in their support structures to appropriate authorities.”**

Characterized by his piety, courage and dignity the then leader of Taliban, Mullah Omar (RA) outrightly rejected the demands of the United states. It was against the local tradition first and foremost to hand over your guest to the enemies and more importantly it was against the religion of Islam. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a Hadith said, **“Do not hand your Muslim brother to the enemies of Allah.”** We will sacrifice our selves and our emirate but shall not hand our brothers and guests to the enemies of Allah said Mullah Omar (RH).

Al Qaeda on the other hand had been trying to lure America into the direct confrontation with the Mujahideen for years. The bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania by the Mujahideen paved the way for it and the blessed operation of 9/11 surely hooked the fish. One may argue why was it necessary in the first place. The answer lies in the speeches of Sheikh Osama bin Laden (RA) where he explains how US had become the ring leader in the evil, oppression, and transgression, how she was supporting the Jews against the Muslims in Palestine and how it was waging war against the truthful Muslims, behind the walls off course until then.

United States against the Islam. George Bush while declaring war on Islam (which they call war on terror) said, **“this crusade, this war on terror is going to take a while.”** The then leadership of Al Qaeda already anticipating it began the preparations for it, moved to Tora Bora mountains. This scenario is perfectly summed by Michael Scheuer in his Book OBL as:

With smoke still rising from lower Manhattan, the Pentagon, and a Pennsylvania pasture, bin Laden had little time for celebration. He had sought to lure the United States into invading Afghanistan since at least 1997 and was pretty sure the 9/11 attacks would do the trick. Still, he took no chances. On September 19, 2001, bin Laden announced that while cowardice and fear might yet prevail, if it did launch an invasion **“the United States would face a crushing defeat.”** While continuing to goad Washington, bin Laden acted as if sure the fish was hooked. He later said he’d had six days’ notice of the attacks—learning of the actual date on September 5—but had of course known for far longer that they were coming. He and his lieutenants probably began moving archives, ordinance, communications gear, and fighters into Afghanistan’s mountains or into Pakistan much earlier. Indeed, Ahmad Zaydan has written, based on observations when interviewing bin Laden before 9/11, that **“Usama and al-Qaeda in general were prepared for the worst Western and U.S.**

strike on Afghanistan”; such readiness helped them avoid getting killed or arrested after the fall of the Taliban. Washington, moreover, gave al-Qaeda twenty-six more days to disperse its resources by not attacking until October; the delay was due to the Pentagon’s lack of planning for Afghanistan

and the Bush administration’s fear of casualties or captured servicemen—especially pilots—before enough search-and-rescue units could be deployed to the war zone. Given the quantity of al-Qaeda documents found by journalists and by U.S. and UK militaries, it is clear that evacuation was not completed by October. Nonetheless, the operation had been given priority, and was well planned and executed: nothing that could fatally compromise al-Qaeda, pinpoint its leaders, sketch its worldwide network, detail or locate its financial assets and transfer mechanisms, or outline its intentions, targets, or timetables was left behind.

The U.S. government and military, for example, simply shrugged their collective shoulders at bin Laden’s escape, believing that the capture of major Afghan cities meant

the war had been won and al-Qaeda and the Taliban broken forever. While United States and NATO indulged in premature self-congratulation, bin Laden and al-Qaeda began regrouping, refitting, and planning for war. End quote

Unscathed from what the so-called world’s best army could throw at him physically in terms of bombings, airstrikes etc, psychologically in terms of propaganda and fake news, Sheikh Osama bin Laden said, **“Our silence is our real propaganda. Rejections, explanations, or corrigendum only waste your time, and through them, the enemy wants you to engage in things which are not of use to you. These things are pulling you away from your cause. The Western media is unleashing such baseless propaganda, which makes us surprise[d], but it reflects on what is in their hearts and gradually they themselves will be captive of this propaganda. They become afraid of it and begin to cause harm to themselves. Terror is the most dreaded weapon in the modern age and the Western media is mercilessly using it against their own people. You can understand what the performance in war [will be] of the nation which suffers from fear and helplessness.”**



Even though the Taliban governed Emirate fell weeks after the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, most of the al-Qaeda leadership and its fighter had tactically retreated to the mountains of the Tora Bora and from there to the safe havens. The US along

with all of the Western media prematurely and evasively declared victory against the Mujahideen because the US forces and the NATO had captured the territory from the Taliban and killed some of its fighters. Such was the impact of the media propaganda for it, most of the Muslims also fell for it and accepted that the Taliban and the al-Qaeda had been defeated and the US had won.

However, in the Islamic perspective the result of the battle was the vice versa of what was portrayed in the media. Because the victory and defeat in Islam is not measured by the criteria used by the disbelievers. The criteria for the victory and defeat are different than that of the Disbelievers. Victory in Islam is proportional to how much a person or any group is adhering and steadfast upon the basic fundamentals of Islam and how much patience is shown while having faced the trials and tribulations in the path of Allah.

Likewise, defeat is when Muslims individually and collectively turn away from the straight path of Allah and seek means which are not approved in Quran and Sunnah even though some of the timely benefits are

achieved. Furthermore, winning and losing a battle is a part and parcel of this war between the good and evil and the end result belongs to the believers as has been promised by Allah almighty. During the battle of Uhud, when the Muslims suffered casualties at the hands of the kuffar, following verses were revealed by Allah:

If a wound and killing has touched you, be sure a similar wound and killing has touched the others. And so are the days (good and not so good), We give to men by turns, that Allah may test those who believe, and that He may take martyrs from among you. And Allah likes not the polytheists and wrong-doers. And that Allah may purify the believers [through trials] and destroy the disbelievers. (Surah Aal-E-Imran, Ayah 140-141)

Imam ibn kathir while explaining this ayah said, **Therefore, the Ayah says, if you suffered injuries and some of you were killed, then your enemies also suffered injuries and fatalities. And so are the days, that We give to men by turns, and at times out of wisdom -- We allow the enemy to overcome you, although the final good end will be yours. and that Allah may know test those who believe, meaning, "So that We find out who would be patient while fighting the enemies," according to Ibn `Abbas. And that He may take martyrs from among you, those who would be killed in Allah's cause and gladly offer their lives seeking His pleasure. And Allah likes not the wrongdoers. And that Allah may test those who believe, by forgiving them their sins if they have any. Otherwise, Allah will raise their grades according to the losses they suffered. Allah's statement, and destroy the disbelievers, for it is their conduct that if they gain the upper hand, they transgress and commit aggression. However, this conduct only leads to ultimate destruction, extermination, perishing and dying out. End quote.**

Therefore, it is always a win situation for the believers for if they are given a victory in a battle, they thank Allah and return to their families rejoicing while having annihilated the disbelievers. And if they suffer a defeat then it is also a blessing for them because of the following reasons:

- Allah makes known who is a true believer and who is a hypocrite.
- Allah forgives the sins of the believers according to what they have suffered
- Allah destroys the disbelievers for their transgression and oppression

Nonetheless, even if we apply the criteria followed by

the disbelievers for the results of the invasion of Afghanistan by the United States and its allies, the Mujahideen were victorious and the US and its allies were losers due to following reasons:

1. With the help of Allah, Mujahideen proved to the Muslims all over the world that its America that is the head of the snake, responsible for the transgression and oppression against the Muslims and more important the greatest friend of the unjust regime of Israel.
2. The hypocrite rulers of the Muslim world were exposed to the Muslims as they openly chose the side of the Crusaders and found themselves in the same trench against the Muslims. Thus, their apostasy became open and apparent for everyone to see.
3. The evil scholars or more precisely the scholars of the apostate rulers were also exposed as they also issued Fatawa in favour of the apostate rulers and criticized and criminalized the truthful Muslims.
4. As had been planned, the Jihad for the sake of Allah was exported and spread all over the Muslim world. Muslims began to realize the necessity for the Jihad for the sake of Allah to defend Islam and its people and their lives and properties.

Things were going according to the plans for all of the Arab Mujahideen and Al Qaeda as they avoided the infiltrations in the ranks and maintained a distance from the security agencies in order to not to harm the methodology adopted. However, the afghans were vulnerable



from the earliest as they were not as strong in Aqeeda and Manhaj as compared to their Arab counterparts. Inter service agency (ISI) as cunning as it is, always wanted to get something out of the situation first in Soviet Afghan war and then in US-Afghan war. With calculated moves and for the sake of long-term investments ISI always played the safe game. Even though the former leadership of Taliban did not give in to the tricks but unfortunately the later generations did play into the hands of Pakistani agency ISI.

With first generation of leadership gone, the former one strengthened its ties with the apostate ISI so much so that most of the important decisions were taken with the mutual consent of the Taliban and ISI. This led to the deviation of the Taliban slightly in the initial stages and humongous in the years that followed. The tone in the ambiguous yearly Eid Messages of the Mujahid Mullah Umar began to change. Words in those attributed letters were chosen cleverly that included nationalistic tone and inclusivity. Taliban was no more the guardians and lead-

ers of Jihad for all the Muslims all over the world rather it concentrated on the local tribes and sects present in the Afghanistan. The apostate Shia which had been attacked in the earliest days of the Taliban movement were seen no more heretics and thus them being offended was avoided.

Surprisingly, it was later revealed that the Mullah Omar had long ago died but the news of his death was covered up and the letters released in his name were unjustly and falsely attributed to him. The real hypocrisy showed up when the Islamic State announced Khilafah upon the Prophetic Methodology and urged all the Muslims to pledge allegiance to the newly formed Caliphate. Responding to the call of the truthful leaders, the sincere Mujahideen present in Afghanistan pledged allegiance to the Khilafah and joined the caravan without any delay. Thus, with the help of Allah the Khurasan Province (Wilayah Khurasan) of the Islamic State was established after the Bayah of the Mujahideen was accepted. The Islamic State soon began the operations in Afghanistan and waged Jihad for the sake of Allah against all forms of Shirk and kufr as commanded by Allah almighty. However, this set the alarms ringing in the ranks of deviant Taliban and the spy agencies in Pakistan because of the pressure from the Kuffar all over the world. Thus, the Taliban and Pakistani ISI mutually began to conspire against the newly formed Wilayah by demonizing and criminalizing it in order to weaken and ultimately destroy it. In the events followed the Taliban cornered the Wali (governor) of Khurasan with some of his companions in one of the villages only for the Afghan government to martyr him in an airstrike.

Furthermore, Taliban killed hundreds of the truthful mujahideen from Tajikistan in Zabul only because they pledged allegiance to the Islamic State and refused to yield to the demands of the Taliban. It did not stop there as when the United States along with the Afghan army started offensive against the Mujahideen of the Islamic State, the Taliban shamelessly found themselves in the same trenches against the Islamic State.

The Taliban repeatedly in their official speeches shamelessly boasted their ability to destroy the Islamic State in Afghanistan and to retake the areas ruled by the Sharia on the demands of the Americans. In one of the speeches their official spokesperson said, **“Taliban can cleanse and destroy the Islamic State’s Wilayah Khurasan within a month.”** In another statement they said, **“Taliban won’t allow the Mujahideen of Islam State to harm the interests of America and her allies in Afghan-**

istan and that it won’t allow its land to be used against the disbelievers.” Taliban continuously spoke against the Islamic State after the so-called peace deal was brokered between them and the United States by the Pakistan Government. It was not surprising anymore for any person who had followed the events in Afghanistan as the ranks had been purified and that the good had been separated from the evil and as the so-called peace talks went on, the withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan was prioritised by the Taliban and in the backdrop of it many rumours began to circulate.

One of the rumours was that after the withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan, the Taliban would send its fighters to Kashmir to fight against the Indian troops and hence free the Muslims of Kashmir from the oppression of Indian forces.

The Taliban however officially made its stance clear and said that Kashmir issue is the internal matter of India and that the Taliban won’t interfere in this matter. The Taliban once again made its policies clear and proved that the Taliban has evolved now and that it has learnt to put the interests of its own people first and foremost.

It is no longer willing to sacrifice their Emirate for the sake of the Muslim brothers, not anymore. All those ethics and morals are gone which it showed when protecting the Arab Mujahideen against the onslaught of the Kafir America and her NATO allies.

Moreover, what is surprising is that when Joe Biden announced the date for the complete withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan, people started to draw their own conclusions. Media first and foremost and then people also fell for the propaganda that America has lost and that the Taliban had won. But if observed carefully, the demands that were made by America some twenty years ago remained the same. The Taliban has given in on all of those demands and the only difference is that the Mujahideen of Al Qaeda are replaced with the Mujahideen of the Islamic State.

The American forces didn’t leave before they made sure that Taliban fights the Islamic State and that it opposes the radical Islamic Terrorists which now are the Islamic State instead of the al Qaeda. Now even if the media portrays the Taliban as the winners and the US as losers the reality is the vice-versa. The Taliban cannot be called as winners in the Islamic perspective as they have betrayed Allah and His Messenger (PBUH) by accepting the demands of the Kafir America and the US cannot be called as losers as they remain steadfast on what they stood for twenty years ago.

